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### Local student wins UM's Merriam-Frontier Award for poetry

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May 11, 1989

LOCAL STUDENT WINS UM'S MERRIAM-FRONTIER AWARD FOR POETRY

MISSOULA --

University of Montana student Lee Evans of Missoula has won this year's Merriam-Frontier Award for a collection of poems entitled "The Fisherman's Widow."

Evans, a third-year graduate student in creative writing, is also interested in art and says she likes to combine poetry with photographs she has taken. In fact, the title for her collection was inspired by a display of paintings depicting Chinese peasants. Her poetry explores relationships between men and women and fathers and daughters.

The Merriam-Frontier Award includes \$250 cash, publication of the manuscript and its distribution throughout the Northwest. Copies will be available in local bookstores.

H.G. Merriam, longtime UM professor and professor emeritus of English until his death in 1980, established the award to recognize the work of outstanding student writers at UM. Merriam edited the quarterly journal *Frontier*, which published for the first time many now-famous writers, including A.B. Guthrie and Wallace Stegner. He also established UM's creative writing program in 1919.

Evans grew up in Napa, Calif., as Lisa Evans.

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KS  
Local and hometowns  
Evans.rl